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January 24, 1997

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Administrators of Licensed Health Care Facilities

FROM: Alan Samuels, Director

Division of Health Licensing

SUBJECT: Provider-Wide Exception

Various regulations published by this Division address distances from entrance doors to private/semi-private rooms along the line of travel to the nearest exit. These distances vary based upon whether a building is sprinklered. A table within the Standard Building Code indicates the distances which are appropriate for various types of facilities.

In the interest of establishing reasonable standards which can be met by providers and yet do not compromise the health, safety, and welfare of patients cared for by licensed health care facilities, it has been determined that the distances indicated in the Standard Building Code may be utilized as alternate standards and will be considered acceptable.

This standard will be required in the planning/construction phase of the initial licensing procedure.

AS:GM

cc: Division of Health Facilities Construction Alice Truluck, Customer Service Liaison